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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with Brian Mulroney, Prime Minister of
Canada

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Brian Mulroney, Prime Minister
Ralph Sigler (Notetaker)

DATE, TIME February 23, 1991,
AND PLACE: Camp David

(Early portion of call not monitored.)

The President: No one knows I am going back down to do this.
(S)

Prime Minister Mulroney: I won't say a word. (U)

The President: The Soviets have been very constructive, but
Saddam is still setting new oil fires. He has brutalized the
Kuwaitis. I wanted you to know that, in the spirit of
consultation. (C)

Prime Minister Mulroney: Do you hold out any hope at all for
reconciliation of your approaches on the final terms? (C)

The President: No, but he asked me to stay in the UN for another
48 hours. However, we have a problem here because I spelled out
the ultimatum for Saddam yesterday. He fires missiles, talks
peace to the Soviets, but shows no signs of peace. I said I
can't do this, I don't see any way unless he moves out of Kuwait.
(C)

Prime Minister Mulroney: Did he say he would get hold of Saddam?
(C)

The President: He didn't say that. (U)

Prime Minister Mulroney: Are there lines of communication open,
just in case, with Gorbachev? (C)

The President: I don't know. We don't have lines to Saddam, but
maybe Gorbachev has lines to him. (C)

Prime Minister Mulroney: It has been a long, tough one. I don't
agree with the New York Times very often, but I have to say,

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execution of the war so far has been unrivaled in terms of your accomplishments in rallying this coalition and holding it together. (C)

The President: You're nice to say that. I hope now that it will be very, very fast. The casualties will be there and it worries all of us, but I think they will be less than some predictions say. I say that because a lot of destruction has gone on to his armor. The early probing actions are going very, very well. The coalition is predicting rapid surrender, etc. This may be some wishful thinking. But I hope it's not long. We'll move fast. There we are. (C)

Prime Minister Mulroney: I look forward to seeing you on the tube at 10 and give my best to Barbara. (C)

The President: I am instructing Cheney to move ahead. (C)

-- End of Conversation --

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